The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) is comprised of six divisions that use a customer-driven, solution-oriented approach to cultivate and expand new economic opportunities for the food and agricultural sector; safeguard the public's food supply; inspect and enforce sound animal health practices; control and eradicate plant pests and diseases threatening the \$91.4 billion food and agriculture system; preserve the environment by which the farming community makes their living and feeds consumers; and protect consumers by enforcing laws relating to weights and measures.

The Executive Office houses the Office of the Director, who is responsible for policy development, strategic planning, daily operations, and more. The following department functions also fall under the Executive Office:

- Emergency Management
- Legislative Liaison
- Communications
- Agriculture Development



The Animal Industry Division is responsible for programs that control and eradicate reportable, contagious,infectious, and

communicable diseases of livestock, poultry, aquaculture, equine and companion animals; controlling contamination of



animals from toxic substances; enforcing and supporting the humane treatment of animals; and promoting Michigan's animal industries.

The Environmental Stewardship Division

(**ESD**) provides migrant labor housing inspections, conflict resolution through the Right to Farm program, assistance and support

to conservation districts, drain commissioners, and other land users, enabling them to carry out programs that maintain



economically viable and environmentally friendly land uses. ESD is also responsible for implementing the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP), an innovative, proactive and voluntary program helping farms voluntarily prevent or minimize agricultural pollution risks.

The Food and Dairy Division administers programs to enforce laws and regulations governing the safety and wholesomeness

of food and food products; responds to food safety complaints, recalls, and food emergencies;



serves as a key link in the federal-statelocal food safety system; assists in the food safety education of consumers, regulators, and industry; and assures the interstate movement of milk and dairy products.

The Pesticide and Plant Pest Management Division (PPPM) administers programs to prevent the introduction of invasive and destructive pests and plant diseases;

prevents the adulteration of animal food, unsanitary grain storage facilities, and misuse of pesticides; and provides



assurance that animal feeds, remedies, fertilizers, and pesticides are registered and accurately labeled. PPPM provides grading, inspection, and certification of a variety of commodities including fruits and vegetables; and certifies and licenses businesses in the nursery and pesticide trade and administers the Grain Dealers and Farm Produce Insurance Acts.

The Laboratory Division provides analytical, microbiological, diagnostic, equine drug testing, and technical support to MDARD's regulatory divisions and other state and federal agencies. The division also prevents economic fraud and deception in the area of weights and measures, labeling and advertising; and regulates the sale and quality of motor fuel.

The Operational Services Division

oversees the fiscal data needed to assure the timely, accurate, and efficient use of MDARD resources and administers business processes including:

- Accounting
- Procurement
- Facility Management
- Mail Operations
- Central Licensing Unit
- •Technology and process improvement





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